

## REMARKS

These remarks are responsive to the Office action dated July 28, 2004 on the above-identified patent application. Claims 1-18 and 26 are pending in the application, following an earlier restriction requirement. In the Office action, the Examiner rejected the pending claims under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-16 and 19-23 of U.S. Patent No. 6,581,879. Applicant traverses these rejections. Nevertheless, to expedite issuance of a patent, applicant is submitting herewith a terminal disclaimer over the cited patent. The double patenting rejections were the only rejections in the Office action. Accordingly, applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully asks the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance covering all of the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, please contact the undersigned attorney of record.

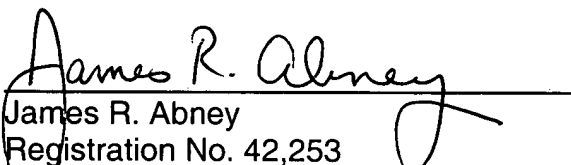
### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on September 1, 2004.

  
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Respectfully submitted,

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